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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Koichi MASUDA *et al.*  
Title: ENGINEERED  
INTERVERTEBRAL DISC  
TISSUE  
Appl. No.: 10/084,640  
Filing Date: 02/25/2002  
Examiner: David M. Naff  
Art Unit: 1651  
Atty. Dkt. No. 047940-0139

<p><b>CERTIFICATE OF MAILING</b> I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date below.</p> <p>Joseph P. Meara (Printed Name)</p> <p><i>Joseph P. Meara</i> (Signature)</p> <p>August 16, 2005 (Date of Deposit)</p>
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AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Examiner:

O.K. to enter:  
Responsive to the Final Office Action mailed May 17, 2005 in the above-referenced patent application, please consider the following remarks. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-2350.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this document.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 4 of this document.